Your Doctor Your Partner These materials have been brought to you by



PDPT & Partners

A Partners Guide to Patient Delivered Partner Therapy

Why am I getting this?

You are getting this because your sexual partner has been diagnosed with a CURABLE STD. Your partner is participating in something called patient delivered partner therapy, or PDPT. PDPT is a type of Expedited Partner Therapy, or EPT. As part of PDPT, a healthcare provider gave your partner extra prescription medication to give to you. We call this service PartnerCare.

Is it legit?

Yes. PDPT is a legitimate thing to do - it's safe and effective.

Does it work?

PDPT is nearly 100% effective when used as directed. PDPT is only used for bacterial STDs like Chlamydia and gonorrhea.

What if I don't think I have an STD?

A lot of STDs don't have signs or symptoms. You might have an STD even if you don't think that anything is wrong. The fact is, you have had sex with someone who has been diagnosed with an STD and it is likely that you were exposed.

What is this medicine?

The medicine is a prescription antibiotic. Antibiotics are used to cure a lot of different infections. You have probably taken an antibiotic before. The antibiotic you received will cure Chlamydia and gonorrhea. It does not treat other STDs.

STD Statistics More common than you might think

- One in five people between the ages of 15 and 55 are infected with an STD.
- One in three sexually active people will have an STD by the time they are 24.
- 15 million Americans are diagnosed with an STD every year.

Is it safe?

Prescription antibiotics are very safe.



However, **DO NOT TAKE** the medicine if any of the following are true:

- You are having lower belly pain, cramps, pain during sex, vomiting/throwing up, pain in the testicles (balls), or fever.
- You are pregnant.
- You are allergic or have had a bad reaction, rash, or allergy to any antibiotics, including: Azithromycin ("Zithromax"), Erythromycin, Clarithromycin ("Biaxin"), or any "macrolide" or "ketolide."
- You have a serious long-term health problems like kidney, heart or liver disease, seizures, or are taking blood thinners.
- You are currently taking another prescription medication.

If any of these circumstances exist, you should talk to your healthcare provider as soon as possible.

What do I do?

- Take all this medicine at once, by mouth. Do not share the medicine, you need all of it.
- Take it on an empty stomach, at least one hour before eating or two hours after eating.
- If you throw up in the hour after taking the medicine, you will need to get more medicine, because the medicine did not have time to work.
- DO NOT HAVE SEX (vaginal, oral, or anal) for at least 7 days after both you and your sex partner(s) have been treated. You can get the STD again if you have sex before the medicine cures you and your partner(s).
- Get checked for other STDs. Even if you take the medicine, it is important to get tested for other STDs because people can have more than one STD at a time and this medicine does not cure all of them.



PDPT is only used for bacterial STDs like Chlamydia & Gonorrhea.

Chlamydia and Gonorrhea are bacterial sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) that are passed through sex - all types of sex - oral sex, anal sex, and vaginal sex. They don't always have signs or symptoms, especially in women. When people do have signs or symptoms, they can include pain or burning during urination and pus or discharge from your genitals (penis, vagina, anus). Even without symptoms, STDs can be passed to partners.

Untreated Chlamydia and Gonorrhea infections can lead to serious health problems.



Do I still need to visit a doctor?

Although you do not have to visit a healthcare provider after taking the medicine as long as it is used as directed, it is strongly recommended that you do so. You may visit a healthcare provider to test that you have been cured, to talk about your situation, to get tested for other STDs that this medicine does not cure, or to discuss safer sex options, all of which are great ideas! It's confidential and can be reassuring.

Will taking the medicine harm me if I don't have an STD?

NO! Even if you don't have an STD, taking this prescription medicine will not harm you unless you are allergic to antibiotics. Be sure to read the directions before taking vour medication.

What if I decide not to do this?

If you decide not to take the prescription medicine you still need to get STD testing. Immediately! Delaying treatment can lead to serious health problems in the long run.

Avoiding Future STD Infections

You and your partner aren't alone - a lot of people get STDs. The only way to completely avoid STDs, including HIV, is to not have sex. If you do have sex, reduce your risk by practicing safer sex. That means using a latex condom every time you have sex and with every partner. That also means using a latex condom for every kind of sex - oral sex, anal sex, and vaginal sex.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: "What is my partner giving me?"

A: "It is a prescription antibiotic used to treat sexually transmitted infections."

Q: "Why do I need it?"

A: "Because your partner tested positive for an STD and you might have it to. Taking this medicine will cure you."

Q: "Is it safe?"

A: "Yes. It is safe and effective. Some people can be allergic to antibiotics so you need to read the instructions."



Q: "I don't have any signs or symptoms do I still need medicine?"

A: "Yes. A lot of times people with STDs don't have signs or symptoms. Taking the medicine will cure you."

Q: "How do I know it is real? What if I have questions?"

A: "You can call the phone number on the package."

Q: "Will this cure all STDs?"

A: "NO. This medicine will ONLY cure bacterial STD like gonorrhoea and Chlamydia. If you suspect for any reason that you may have been exposed to other STDs or if you simply want to be sure you don't have anything else, you should visit a healthcare provider and discuss your concerns."

Q: "What are side effects?"

A: "Common side effects include diarrhea, nausea, belly pain, headache and throwing up. These are common and not serious. Remember, if you throw up within an hour, you need to get more medicine."

Q: "What if I have a more serious reaction?"

A: "Serious allergic reactions are rare but can occur. These include trouble breathing/chest tightness, closing of the throat, swelling of lips or tongue, and hives (itchy bumps on the skin). If you have any of these problems after taking the medicine, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room."

Q: "What if I am or may be pregnant?"

A: "STDs can be passed on from a mother to her baby during pregnancy, and can cause health problems for you and the baby. If you are or might be pregnant, talk to a doctor or other healthcare provider as soon as you can."

Q: "How did I get this STD?"

A: "The answer to this depends on the situation. People may have an STD for a long time and not know it because sometimes STD don't have signs or symptoms. Other times, you or your partner may suspect you know how it happened. In either case, the best way to work through the situation is through honest and open communication. We call this type of communication "assertive communication."



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